

REMARKS

The Examiner has advanced a Restriction Requirement.

With respect to the restriction requirement, the Examiner requires Applicants to elect one of two (2) inventions allegedly disclosed in the above application.

Group I, claims 1-6, drawn to host cells or cell line comprising said host cell, wherein said host cell is transfected with a nucleic acid encoding the alpha7 subunit of a human neuronal nicotinic acetylcholine receptor

Group II, claims 7-13, drawn to isolated cells transformed or transfected such that the cells express a functional neuronal nicotinic acetylcholine receptor that contains at least one alpha and at least one beta subunit.

In order to be fully responsive, Applicants elect the invention defined by the Group I claims (i.e., claims 1-6) without prejudice to the prosecution of the non-elected claims in a related patent application.

It is believed that the claims are in a condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would be of value, he is requested to call the undersigned counsel at the number listed below.

Any additional fees required in connection with this submission may be taken from Merck Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

Respectfully submitted,

By



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